

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 076560  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 COME-00 MC-02 CIAE-00 INR-07  
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-----062134Z 089645 /41

R 061618Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
INFO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, TU

SUBJECT: PRODUCT OPPORTUNITY - HUGHES HELICOPTERS

REF: ANKARA 2189

1. ACCORDING TO STRATEGIC INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS SALES GROUP, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, STORY OF MARCH 22 REPORTED REFTTEL, STATING PROFILO HAS SIGNED A "PRE-LICENSING" AGREEMENT WITH HUGHES HELICOPTERS TO PRODUCE THE MODEL 500 HELICOPTER IS CORRECT. STORY ABOUT TUSAS APPEARS PREMATURE; HUGHES REPRESENTATIVES HAVE TOLD US THAT TURKS HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING POSSIBLE CO-PRODUCTION OF 500M-D LIGHT COMBAT HELICOPTER, BUT HAVE NOT REACHED A DECISION AS FAR AS WE KNOW.

2. BACKGROUND: HUGHES HELICOPTERS HAS BEEN IN PURSUIT OF THIS MARKET POTENTIAL FOR POLICE AND GENDARMERIE AND  
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SPECIAL EMERGENCY HELICOPTERS FOR SOMETIME. DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN HUGHES HELICOPTERS AND PROFILO HAVE BEEN IN PROGRESS FOR MORE THAN A YEAR. REPRESENTATIVES FROM TURKISH INDUSTRY AND A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE TURKISH AVIATION INDUSTRIES GROUP VISITED HUGHES HELICOPTER PLANT IN CALIFORNIA IN EARLY MARCH 1977.

3. IN VIEW OF INTENDED INTERNAL SECURITY APPLICATIONS OF HUGHES 500 HELICOPTERS IN TURKEY AND POTENTIAL PURCHASE OF MILITARY VERSION, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES HUGHES SHOULD SEEK ADVISORY OPINION ON SALE FROM MUNITIONS CONTROL AND FIRM WILL BE SO ADVISED. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ON TURKISH SIDE FINAL APPROVAL IS NOW REQUIRED BY MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY BEFORE THE PROGRAM CAN PROCEED.

4. GENE BOYER, HUGHES HELICOPTER MARKETING MANAGER FOR MIDDLE EAST, PLANS TO ARRIVE ANKARA LATE APRIL AND WILL CALL AT EMBASSY TO REPORT ON LATEST DEVELOPMENTS.  
VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
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